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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

1317

TOPIC Military Information from

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1G DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE PREPARED 20 August 1951

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REFERENCES

PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

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1. Between 16 and 22 July 1951, source learned from the owner of an inn near the new barracks installation in the woods at Chemnitz-Ebersdorf (N 51/K 66) that the northern building of the installation temporarily quartered German Volkspolizei. The installation was guarded by Soviet, double sentries who wore red-bordered black epaulets. (1)
2. On 16 July, source determined that a block of houses of the Fuchsdelle Settlement in Furth adjoining the Artillerie Kaserne, Chemnitz-Ebersdorf on the southwest, was recently emptied of German residents and made part of the military billeting area. (2) The entrance to the billeting area on Adalbert Stifter Strasse was guarded by sentries who wore red-bordered black epaulets. Based on six days of observation between 16 and 26 July, source believed that the Artillerie Kaserne was heavily occupied by 1,200 to 1,500 troops. A German living near the installation estimated that there were only 800 troops there. An innkeeper stated that the troops there had arrived from Leipzig at the beginning of June and that 12 armored reconnaissance cars were stationed in the installation. Four platoons of about 40 men each were seen marching out of the installation for field training on 18 July.

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3. A German living near the Nachrichten Kaserne in Chemnitz-Ebersdorf stated that the installation quartered only about 100 soldiers on 17 July. He claimed to have seen three tanks leaving the billeting area at night. Only small sections of barracks buildings were lighted at dusk on 26 July. About 60 soldiers wearing fatigue uniform were seen assembling in the barracks yard the following day (3).
4. The Infanterie Kaserne on Leninstrasse, Chemnitz, quartered an undetermined number of very young soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets without branch-of-service insignia. Construction work was noticed in the northwest section of the billeting area. Fifty soldiers were seen marching from the installation to the Zeisig Woods on 18 July.
5. On 23 July, about 80 recruits with red-bordered black epaulets were seen departing on about 15 trucks from a barracks installation on Adalbert Stifter Strasse, Chemnitz-Ebersdorf. The truck drivers wore the same kind of epaulets. The vehicles seemed to belong to [REDACTED]
6. The tent camp in the Zeisig Woods had been largely dismantled by 13 July, with only four 20-man tents and three smaller tents still standing at the camp site. The entrance to the camp was guarded by a soldier with black-bordered black epaulets.
7. On 24 July, the Nachrichten Kaserne in Chemnitz-Ebersdorf was occupied to capacity. All barracks buildings were fully lighted at nightfall. There was heavy traffic of [REDACTED] The trucks were hauling billeting equipment, articles of clothing and gasoline barrels to Siegmar, about 2.5 km west of Chemnitz. Their drivers and loading crews wore red-bordered black epaulets with an undetermined branch-of-service insignia. The trucks were unloaded in a residential area, about 1 km square, west of the autobahn. The area was bounded by Zwickauer Strasse on the south, Oberfrohnauer Strasse on the west, Buergeistrasse and Keplerstrasse on the north and Kopernikusstrasse on the east. The civilian residents of the residential area were evacuated during the night of 24 July, and the Germans moved to the Fuchsdelle Settlement. (2) After being unloaded, the trucks returned empty to the Nachrichten Kaserne. It was not noticed whether the trucks had hauled any troops from the Nachrichten Kaserne to the residential area at Siegmar.
8. Despite the arrival of civilians evacuated from Siegmar during the night of 24 July, the southern and separately fenced section of the Fuchsdelle Settlement was still reserved for Soviet troops. (2)

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9. The camp in the Zeisig Woods was occupied by troops on 26 July. A unit of 6 officers and 40 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets was seen moving into the camp. The troops led about 20 dogs, with each dog carrying two round canisters, about 50 cm long, on either side of its back.
10. Between 18 and 26 July, the Infanterie Kaserne on Leninstrasse, Chemnitz, appeared to be occupied to capacity by troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. The headquarters building of the installation was vacant after 20 July. All telephone lines converging at the installation, including the line from the settlement east of the billeting area, were removed. All Soviet families from the settlement had left previously, and only some male Soviets remained there on and after 19 July. Soldiers from the Infanterie Kaserne were engaged in driver training on 26 July. The driving school vehicles included [REDACTED]

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11. On 25 July, the residential area of Siegmars, which was recently occupied by Soviet troops, had a billeting capacity of about 2,000 men. Its eastern section, namely the buildings bounded by Adolf Weinholtstrasse, formerly Wiesenstrasse, Rosmarienstrasse, Kopernikusstrasse and Keplerstrasse, was occupied by troops. A sentry with red-bordered black epaulets stood on Adolf Weinholtstrasse, which had been blocked by a board fence. According to a railroadman, the troops there had come from the Dresden area or the area east of Dresden and had been detrained at the Chemnitz main railroad station during the night of 24 July. The last contingents of troops, [REDACTED] the military reservation, had six trucks carrying small AA guns with them. The [REDACTED] They were driven by soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with an undetermined branch-of-service insignia.

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12. The Soviet quarters on Gausstrasse, formerly Rathausstrasse, Chemnitz, were partitioned off by a board fence which contained only a small gap for pedestrian traffic. A sentry standing there wore black-bordered green epaulets and a cap with a green band. All military personnel observed there on 25 July were officers from major upwards. The houses on Kirchhofstrasse, formerly Steinstrasse, were occupied by Soviet civilians.
13. Railroadmen at the Chemnitz railroad station stated that from 300 to 400 Soviet troops had arrived by 25 July and that troop trains were announced to arrive on 29 and 30 July. (4)

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~~Comments.~~

- (1) The new barracks installation is located in the southwestern portion of the Ebersdorf Woods and has been known since March 1951. [REDACTED] No subsequent information on the completion and occupation of the installation has been received.

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- (2) The first report on the evacuation of civilians from the Suchs-delle Settlement was of February 1951. [REDACTED]  
 The information by the first and third report indicates that part of the settlement was added to the billeting area of the barracks installation in Ebersdorf, another part was occupied by civilian evacuees from Siegmar-Schoenau, and a third part was still vacant by the end of July 1951.
- (3) The Nachrichten Kaserne is on the west and the Artillerie Kaserne is on the east of the southwestern edge of the Ebersdorf.
- (4) [REDACTED]

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